

DEC 28 2004

Attorney Docket No. 01242/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): K. KATO, ET AL
Serial No. : 09/837,357
Filed : April 18, 2001
For : ELECTRONIC CAMERA
Art Unit : 2615
Examiner : GENCO, BRIAN C.
Customer No.: 01933

RESPONSE- 37 C.F.R. 1.111

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed
December 7, 2004, the term for response to which expires on
January 7, 2005.

ELECTION

Applicants hereby elect Invention II, claims 11-21, drawn to
focal-plane shutter and exposure control, for further prosecution
on the merits, with traverse as discussed below.

ELECTION OF SPECIES

Applicants hereby elect Species IV, Fig. 17, for further
prosecution on the merits in the event that a generic claim is
ultimately found not to be allowable, with traverse as discussed
below.

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE
TRANSMISSION
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TOTAL PAGES: 3
I hereby certify that this
paper is being facsimile
transmitted to the
Commissioner for Patents,
on the date noted below.

N. Sahadeo
Nafini P. Sahadeo

Dated: December 28, 2004

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and
the necessary petition for extension of time
is not filed concurrently herewith, please
consider this as a Petition for the requisite
extension of time, and to the extent not
tendered by credit card payment,
authorization to charge the extension fee,
or any other fee required in connection
with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

CLAIMS READABLE ON ELECTED SPECIES

The claims readable on elected Species IV (Fig. 17) are claims 11, 12, 15, 16, 17 and 18.

The Examiner indicated that claims 11 and 18 are considered to be generic. Therefore, all of these claims are readable on the elected species.

TRAVERSE OF ELECTION REQUIREMENT

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider the Election/Restriction requirement since it is respectfully submitted that search and examination of all of the claims in the application would not place a serious burden on the Examiner. The various inventions and species are respectfully submitted to be sufficiently related that the Examiner should be able to conduct a meaningful search without undue burden.

RE INVENTORSHIP

Applicants have informed the undersigned that the original inventorship is still correct for the elected subject matter.

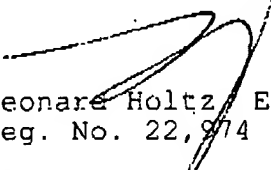
It is respectfully submitted that this submission is fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action.

It is respectfully requested that prosecution on the merits now proceed on the basis of the elections set forth above.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

December 28, 2004


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